

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Research Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes February 11, 1994

Attendees

Greg Cailliet, Moss Landing Marine Labs - RAC Chairman
Laura Ehret, Naval Postgraduate School
Laurel Fox (Guest Attendee, UCSC Professor of Biology)
Gary Greene, USGS
Tami Grove, CA Coastal Commission
Jim Harvey, Moss Landing Marine Labs
Terry Jackson, Manager, Monterey Bay NMS
Deborah Johnston, CA Dept of Fish and Game
Aaron King, Monterey Bay NMS - RAC Executive Coordinator
Donna Meyers (AMBAG Guest Attendee)
Donald Potts, UCSC
Bruce Robison, MBARI (Francisco Chavez attended for Dr. Robison)
Jim Rote, NOAA/OCRM
Gary Sharp, CIRIOS
Rick Starr, Univ. of CA, Sea Grant Advisory Program
Mark Stephenson, CDFG/Marine Pollution Studies Lab
Mary Yoklavich, NOAA/NMFS/PFEG

Members Not In Attendance

Andrew DeVogelaere, ESNERR and Elkhorn Slough Foundation
Chris Harrold, MBA
Dennis Powers, Hopkins Marine Station
Jan Roletto, GFNMS
Bill Schramm, NOAA/OAB

Greg Cailliet, RAC Chair, introduced the meeting.

Announcement was made that Dr. Don Potts would replace Dr. Mary Silver as the representative of UCSC. Announcement was made that Dr. Dennis Powers was unable to attend and sends regrets (out of country). Dr. Robison has asked Dr. Francisco Chavez to stand in for him at this meeting. Andrew DeVogelaere called the Chair and said he would not be able to attend.

Confirmation of RAC Membership vs. Interested Parties Discussion ensued about what the exact membership of the RAC should be. Gary Greene brought up the issue of how the RAC should be organized -- by discipline or by institution. It was decided that the RAC should emphasize its representation by institution. However, other members representing particular disciplines could be added as needed. The list below represents the RAC's decision with regard to its present membership. Also enclosed is a list of people who are not members, but who would continue to receive info on the RAC. Members representing institutions would ensure that other members of their institutions or organizations with different disciplines would receive info as appropriate. It was pointed out that Dave Paradies was suggested by Gary Sharpe as a representative from the southern reaches of the Sanctuary, but had still not been contacted. Aaron King said he would contact Mr. Paradies in the next couple of days. It was also determined that each institution or member could substitute members at will for any particular meeting, and that some institutions may even

request to have standing Alternates.

RAC Members

Last Name First Affiliation

Cailliet Greg Moss Landing Marine Labs
DeVogelaere Andrew ESNERR and Elkhorn Slough Foundation
Ehret Laura Naval Postgraduate School
Greene Gary U.S. Geological Survey
Grove Tami California Coastal Commission
Harrold Chris Monterey Bay Aquarium
Harvey Jim Moss Landing Marine Labs
Jackson Terry Monterey Bay NMS
Johnston Deborah CDFG Monterey
Potts Donald UCSC
Powers Dennis Hopkins Marine Station
Robison Bruce MBARI
Roletto Jan Gulf of the Farallones NMS
Rote James NOAA/OCRM
Schramm Bill NOAA - Ocean Applications Branch
Sharp Gary CIRIOS
Starr Rick UC, Sea Grant Advisory Program
Stephenson Mark CDFG/Marine Pollution Studies Lab
Yoklavich Mary NOAA/NMFS/PFEG

People Interested in RAC Issues - Info sent FYI

Last Name First Affiliation

Cava Francesca NOAA/SRD
Evans David NOS
Papadakis Nick AMBAG
Saunders Rachel Center for Marine Conservation
Sullivan Kathryn DOC/NOAA Headquarters
Van Sommeran Sean Pelagic Shark Research Foundation
Faanes Craig US Fish and Wildlife Service

During the meeting it was agreed that there should be someone on the FYI list who was a contact for the USFWS. Craig Faanes was contacted by Aaron King after the meeting and agreed to be the contact for the USFWS if that was acceptable to the RAC.

NSF Ocean Plan - It was brought up that the RAC had still not received copies of the NSF Ocean Plan. Terry Jackson said that the Sanctuary had just received the report, and that they would receive copies of it in short order, along with the Potter Report.

Approval of December 17, 1993 Meeting Minutes - Unanimous Future Meeting Schedule - MBA had expressed a desire that the RAC decide on a Long-term schedule if it would like to hold its meetings at the MBA. The Chair proposed that the RAC meet once a month at the MBA from 0830 to 1200 hrs. Some discussion ensued as to the necessity of a monthly schedule, but it was decided that for the time being, a monthly meeting would be continued. It was decided that the 4th Friday of each month would be good, and that the schedule below would be followed for the next six months: March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, and August 26. The Chair directed Aaron King to write a letter to the Aquarium expressing the gratitude of the RAC for their generous offers of space and refreshments.

Golde/Jackson Letter - The Chair informed the Committee that the letter of commendation for Helen Golde and Terry

Jackson was sent for their work on the Research Plan.

Potter Reports - The Potter Reports have not arrived yet from Washington for distribution to the RAC and other interested groups. The Chair suggested that the RAC should review and discuss this document. There was no opposition to this idea. The Chair directed Aaron King to make a distribution of this report to the RAC.

Update of ICM process - Jim Rote gave a summary of what is going on with the ICM process. A summary is going out to all the participants. This is a two-year process and the RAC will be kept up-to-date as we go. The next step is a meeting of the

Core group. Jim requests suggestions on a proper acronym for this group. Anyone who wants copies of the documents generated from this process are welcome to request them from the Sanctuary.

Update on Research Symposium - The Chair expressed its satisfaction that the Research Symposium went well. Rick Starr and Laura Ehret agreed that things went smoothly. The Chair would like suggestions on the content for the next symposium (see Old Business at the end).

Update on LMER - Jim Rote gave an update on what is being planned for the LMER project. The rest of the seed money from the Packard grant will be used to put a solid proposal together. This will involve a series of discipline workshops planned for this year. The deadline for submission of a proposal this year is past, but a target of next year's deadline is being made. The local area, with an ESNERR and a Marine Sanctuary, would be ideal for such a project. The Chair requested that the RAC be kept abreast of developments.

Research Permit Subcommittee Report/Status of Research -

Jim Harvey said no meeting has been held yet of the subcommittee. It was strongly emphasized that the subcommittee meet before the next RAC meeting and submit a report.

Research Database - Gary Sharpe presented a report by the subcommittee on its progress and recommendations for a RAC database (attached). In summary, while such a database (including data sets, etc.) is something that may later be included on such things as I3LA; for the time being, a scaled down version should be incorporated on a bulletin board on EcoNet. Such a system would be simply a summary of ongoing research in the Sanctuary. This would get people used to the idea of going to such a system for information like this. It is envisioned that the researchers themselves would keep their own information up-to-date, with the Sanctuary Research Coordinator (Aaron King) acting as the bulletin board manager. It was decided that Gary and Aaron would set up the bulletin board and give the RAC a guideline sheet, plus a demo at the next meeting with regard to how the system works.

Break

Presentation by Dr. Laurel Fox regarding the Monterey Bay Regional Research Program (MBRRP) - Two handouts were presented, one was a focus statement and objective of the MBRRP, the other was a longer prospectus on the idea of a MBRRP presented to UCSC. In general, this would be a multi-discipline (combining both natural and social sciences) research and education program designed to analyze the regional issues surrounding the Monterey Bay Ecosystem. Dr. Fox first presented a short history on how the idea of a MBRRP developed. She then explained how such a program would be set up at UCSC and how that structure would relate to other institutions and resources around the Monterey Bay. Dr. Fox also discussed a recent workshop on this program that was held at UCSC and some of the results and summaries that came out of that workshop. Dr. Fox stated that a personal goal of hers is to have a proposal on the project ready for the UCSC Chancellor by June of 1994. At the present time the developers of this project are seeking out seed money for workshops to flesh out some of these issues. The

Chair asked the question, and some discussion ensued, as to the physical location of the program. It was pointed out that any program that was sited at UCSC would have a tendency to exclude other programs in the area, since they would feel that it is just another UCSC program that has no bearing on them.

Update by Jim Rote on the Mitchell Senate Bill - This bill sets up regional marine research boards. The board covering this area (Chaired by Jim Sullivan of Sea Grant) runs from Point Reyes down into Mexico (in order to coordinate with Mexican researchers). Several meetings have taken place, but staff problems have slowed things down. Draft plan (a couple of months away) will be sent first to board members, then to workshop participants and then to the general community for review. Jim Rote suggested that it might be a good idea to invite Jim Sullivan up to make a presentation to the RAC on this plan when it is finished.

Also, Prop 132: Marine Research Reserves (Jim Rote) - Has slowed down... How to structure them is a question....~ \$800,000 is available for the four sites (~\$200,000 each)...CDFG looking for a local advisory committee to review proposals. Could this be an Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Committee from the RAC? The Chair directed Aaron King to contact Paul Reilly and see how the RAC could help in this endeavor. Perhaps Paul Reilly or Brian Baird (ask Rote which one) could come in to make a presentation to the RAC in the future. Gary Greene pointed out that some \$\$\$ is available from the Office of Naval Research for fluid process research, such as cascading effects and how submarine canyons are formed. Nothing has been put in yet for the Monterey Canyon.

New comments/discussion re: site characterization RFP for Monterey Bay NMS - The RFP is not yet in the Federal Register due to required clearances, though the Chair expressed satisfaction with the way that NOAA listened to and took the RAC's suggestions seriously. The Chair then gave a brief explanation of what had progressed to date on this and the previous RFP. Some discussion ensued on what it would take to win such a grant, and what the project should be expected to do.

Presentation regarding the Draft NSF Planning Strategic Document (Bruce Robison - Postponed - The Chair directed Aaron King to contact Dr. Robison and see if he could do it at the next meeting.)

Other Old Business - Open

- A greater attempt needs to be made by the Executive Coordinator to contact each person who may be responsible for a presentation, and discussing with them what is expected.
- The Chair asked if anyone was not going to be connected to EcoNet - PFEG may not be.
- Potential Topics for the next Monterey Bay Research Symposium in December in conjunction with WSN - The other possible WSN symposia include one on Biomechanics (Mark Denny) and another on Deep Sea Biology (MBA).
- Suggestions made by the RAC for the Monterey Bay Symposium:

-Marine Fisheries in Monterey Bay

-Habitat Characterization

-Habitats used by Marine Fishes

-Biodiversity especially in light of the Monterey Bay being a potential for marine test site, though some discussion ensued as to whether or not this might be premature.

-Influence of Fluids on the Monterey Bay Environment

An invitation was made from the WSN coordinators for the Ed Ricketts Memorial Lecture to be made during the first evening's social hour (as long as the talk is not too technical). A consensus was reached that Rick Starr, Mary Yoklavich and Gregor Cailliet would be given the authority to reach a decision on a topic, and then the entire RAC would be informed of potential speakers.

Preliminary Information on Sanctuary GIS - Rick Starr explained that UCSC presently has a GIS system in place, and AMBAG and the USGS are both considering acquisition of and development of one. CDFG has several in Sacramento, and they have expressed an interest in making Monterey Bay a pilot project for it. The CCC has a statewide GIS. NOAA does not have a local GIS. Gary Sharpe and Bruce Gritton have been working for years on

establishing a GIS for this area. The point being that these systems are all lumbering in the same direction, and that this system may someday be available to the community in general. Gary Sharpe then followed with a discussion on where regional GIS now stands. This may be an item for presentation and discussion at a later meeting. The RAC encouraged NOAA/MBNMS to move forward with a GIS in the Sanctuary.

New Business - Open

- Relationship of the RAC to the SAC - The Chair raised the issue of how the RAC would like to be formally related to the SAC (or should it?). As the Research Rep to the SAC, and the representative of the RAC, the Chair felt he needed guidance from the RAC on what he should request from the SAC for the RAC's standing in relationship to the SAC. The Chair asked that this be considered and discussed at the next meeting.

1200 Adjourn

NEXT RAC MEETING: Friday, March 25, 8:30-12, in the Ocean View Conference Room of the Monterey Bay Aquarium.